Civil Returns of Service Electronically Filed by Attorneys

Step 1

After you have logged in to CM/ECF, select *Civil* on the ECF main menu. The system will display the Civil Events screen. Select *Service of Process* in the *Initial Pleadings and Service* section.

Initial Pleadings and Service

Complaints, Other Initiating Documents

Answers to Complaints

Other Answers

Amended Complaints and Other Documents

Service of Process

Step 2

The system will display the Service of Process selection screen. Here you select the specific event you are docketing, such as *Summons Returned Executed, Summons Returned Unexecuted, Waiver of Service Executed, or Waiver of Service Unexecuted.* For this lesson, we will select *Summons Returned Executed.*

Available Events (click to select events)

Summons Returned Executed *

Summons Returned Executed as to USA

Summons Returned Unexecuted

Waiver of Service Executed

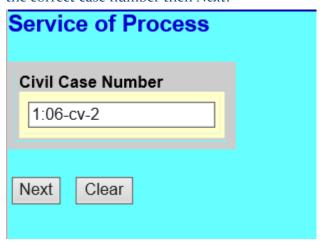
Waiver of Service Unexecuted

Note: Be sure to select Summons Returned Executed as to USA if the party being served was a government agency, U.S. Attorney, or Attorney General.

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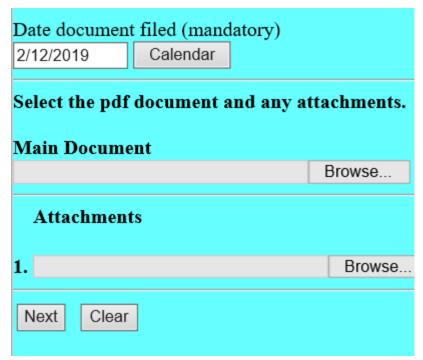
Step 3

The system will display the Case Number screen for you to enter the case in which the summons was issued. The number of the last case accessed will be displayed. If this is the correct case, click *Next*. If it is not, enter the correct case number then *Next*.



Step 4

The system will display the **pdf document** screen. Click *Browse* to display the **File Upload** screen and attach your pdf documents by clicking **Open**, then *Next*. If you are filing multiple summonses, scan them in as one document.



Step 5

The system will display the *Select the Party* screen for you to select the filer, then *Next*.

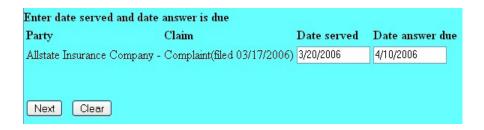
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Step 6

The system will display the *Party Served* screen for you to select the party(ies) (defendant) who was served. If multiple defendants were served, hold down the *Control Button* and select all parties served, then *Next*.

Step 7

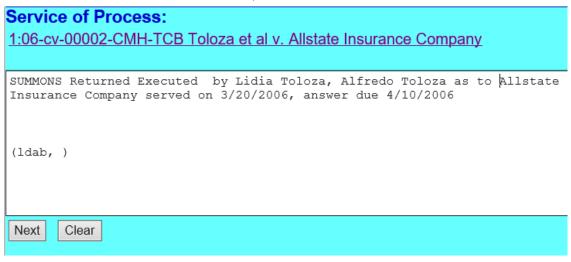
If the summons was returned executed, the system will display a *Date Served* and *Date Answer Due* screen. On this screen, enter the date the defendant was served in the *Date Served* field, and press *Tab*. The system will automatically generate a proposed answer due date (21 days from the service date) in the *Date Answer Due* field. When filing *Summons Returned Unexecuted*, this screen will not appear.



Note: There is a separate event for service on government agencies, which proposes an answer due deadline 60 days from the service date.

Step 8

The system will display the final docket text screen and chance to correct any errors in this transaction. If the transaction and the text are correct, click *Next*.



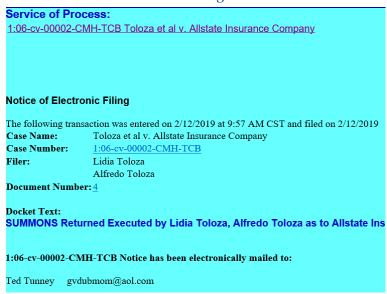
Step 9

Pressing the Next button on this screen commits this transaction. You will have no further opportunity to modify this transaction if you continue. If the transaction is **not** correct, click **Back** on your browser and make the necessary changes. If the transaction and text are correct, then *Next* to receive a NEF.



Step 10

The system will display the Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF) screen. The NEF is verification that the filing has been filed and sent to all filing users.



Note: It is the responsibility of the filing user to send paper copies of pleadings and NEF to any non-filing user.